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Art Rules Aruba showcase this weekend at Cas di Cultura

Audiences can expect a fine display of innovation and creativity as the 250 Aruban youngsters who have participated over the past two weeks in the intensive Art Rules Aruba program stage a demonstration of what they have learned at Aruba's Cas di Cultura this coming Saturday and Sunday evening.

The Oranjestad auditorium will host a night of music, dance, fashion, filmmaking and photography blended together in an exciting mélange showcasing the young talent. Art Rules Aruba is the brainchild of Ayra and Ira Kip, two sisters from Holland who spent

part of their youth on Aruba and were determined since leaving 14 years ago to return with a creative art program for island youngsters.

Through generous funding by a number of local concerns such as the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Authority, Aruba Airport Authority, ArubaBank, as well as UNOCA, the Prins Bernard Cultuur Fonds the Kip sisters were able to realize their dream this summer. The public can enjoy the fruits of their labor and of their visiting instructors this weekend.

Traveling to Aruba from around the world to work with island youth were Kamila



Cye Wong Loi Sing with young photography students

Forbes, Jordan Mahome, Richard Mkoloma, Muriel Salimin Cye Wong Loi Sing, Justin "Top Rock" McKenzie, John Agesilas, Melissa Flerangile, Jason "Motet" Hicks, Sean "DJ Face" Armstrong, J Ivy and Zanillya Farrell. Aruban-born filmmaker Joseph A Cohen-Henriquez, now well established in New York, provided inspiration and practical advice for his young compatriots during his course.

A visit with the students found them busy putting the finishing touches on their projects. Part of the program involves interaction between the disciplines, such as having the photography students do head shots for the aspiring DJ's. Fashion instructor Muriel Salimin expressed enormous satisfaction with their students' focus and creativity. "I would love to come back again and do this program over a longer period; this year, we have dealt mostly with the fundamentals, helping the students understand what they need to do be-

fore even putting pencil to paper. We are extremely pleased with the enthusiasm, talent and deep motivation we have seen here and very proud of what the kids have accomplished in this short time."

This landmark program is a personal vision of Ira and Ayra, "all about creating opportunities for the youth of the island," and to set an example for talented young artists and their parents that a successful career in the arts can be real-

ized with determination and tenacity. Sponsors realized their work is vital to the continued cultural life of the community.

The final show will be a treat for audiences. Tickets are 15 Aruban florins, (\$8.60) and can be purchased at the UNOCA and Cas di Cultura offices, and the Scol di Arte in San Nicolas. For more information about the program visit www.arrulesaruba.com.

by Rosalie Klein

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Colombia, Venezuela face off over guerilla presence

QUITO, Peru (AFP) - Colombia and Venezuela faced off yesterday at a meeting of South American foreign ministers called to air accusations by Bogota that Colombian rebels were using Venezuelan territory to launch attacks.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Nicolas Maduro said on arrival here that his government had requested the meeting to respond to the "grave threats and grave attacks" on it by the government of President Alvaro Uribe.

While accusing the Uribe government of "slander, manipulation, lies" against Venezuela and its President Hugo Chavez, Maduro said he would propose ways "we can retake the path of peace."

Colombia's Foreign Minister Jaime Bermudez said on his arrival that he would appeal to his South American colleagues for help in preventing Colombian rebel forces from taking refuge in Venezuela, or elsewhere.

"Colombia comes with a clear willingness to ask for an efficient cooperation mechanism so that neither the FARC nor the ELN, nor any criminal group can be present in Venezuelan territory, with the collu-

sion of the authorities, or in any part of the world," Bermudez said. However he did not have high expectation for the meeting of the Union of South American Nations, a grouping set up to foster regional cooperation on security issues.

Colombia has charged that some 1,500 guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and National Liberation Army (ELN) are now operating from Venezuela, and demanded that the Chavez government take action against them.

Chavez denounced the charges as a pretext for "armed aggression" and broke off diplomatic relations with Bogota.

The Colombian diplomat said that his country "has lots of evidence, lots of information" on the guerrilla presence.

Meanwhile, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva announced he would travel to Venezuela and Colombia on August 6 for talks with their respective presidents as well as with Colombia's president-elect Juan Manuel Santos.

However, Uribe complained yesterday that Lula was approaching the crisis as if it were a case of personal conflicts.

The Brazilian leader is "ignoring the threat for Colombia and the continent that the presence of FARC terrorists in Venezuela represents," he said. "The only solution that Colombia accepts is to not allow the presence of the terrorists... on Venezuelan territory."

Separately, the head of US Southern Command urged Venezuela to investigate charges leftist guerrilla leaders operate from its territory.

"There is no reason to assume that it is not valid," General Douglas Fraser said in a talk yesterday at a Washington think-tank.

Fraser, who is responsible for all US military activities in Latin America, said the United States was looking at the evidence, saying it was "an allegation that needs to be treated seriously."

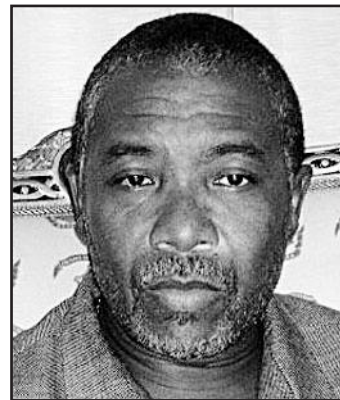
Mia Farrow to testify on Naomi Campbell 'blood diamond'

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) - Actress Mia Farrow and models' agent Carole White will testify next month about a "blood diamond" Naomi Campbell is said to have been given by Liberia's Charles Taylor, court papers showed yesterday.

The two women's names are on a witness list for Monday, August 9, that the prosecution in Taylor's war crimes trial filed with the court in The Hague and which have been obtained by AFP.

The filing specifies that White's evidence would take about two hours, and that of Farrow one hour.

The prosecution says both women have agreed to testify



Charles Taylor

about the late-night gift allegedly presented to supermodel Campbell after a celebrity dinner hosted by then South African president Nelson Mandela in September 1997.

The Ukraine seizes ton of cocaine in Venezuelan shipment

KIEV, The Ukraine (AFP) - Ukrainian security forces seized more than a ton of cocaine at the Black Sea port of Odessa, the largest drugs haul on record in the country, authorities said yesterday.

"In mid-July, two containers arrived in Odessa from Venezuela. After a detailed examination, 1,192.95kg (4,400 pounds) of cocaine was discovered, divided into 1,200 portions, enough for 12 million doses," the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) said in a statement.

The haul was worth an esti-

mated 180 million dollars (138 million euros) on the black market and was the largest ever made, the statement said.

Five suspects were arrested -- two Ukrainians, a Russian, a German and a Bulgarian.

At a government meeting in the beginning of July, President Viktor Yanukovich brandished samples of drugs which he said his aides had bought on the Internet, criticising efforts by security forces to prevent drug trafficking.

The Ukraine is a major hub for drugs entering western Europe.

Campbell herself was subpoenaed to testify about the events, after refusing to talk to prosecutors voluntarily, and is due to take the stand in The Hague next Thursday.

Taylor, 62, has been on trial since 2008 for his alleged role in the civil war in Sierra Leone, accused of arming rebels in return for illegally mined diamonds.

He has pleaded not guilty to charges of murder, rape, conscripting child soldiers, enslavement and pillaging.

White and Farrow, both present at Mandela's dinner, claim to have proof that Campbell was given a diamond by Taylor.

White told prosecutors she was present when the diamond was delivered, while Farrow "was told by Ms Campbell the next morning about the gift".

The prosecution alleges the rough diamond was among those Taylor had obtained from Sierra Leone rebels and took to South Africa "to sell ... or exchange them from weapons."

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Devil may wear Prada, but Virgin Mary dons Louis Vuitton

ROME, Italy (AFP) — The devil may well wear Prada, but at a biennial exhibition of sacred art in Italy, a statue of the Virgin Mary is donning Louis Vuitton, local newspaper Il Centro reported yesterday.

The veil traditionally covering the Virgin's head bears the French luxury brand's trademark "LV" logo in golden letters decorating bags -- many of them counterfeit -- around the world.

Francesco De Molfetta, 31, said he created the work to "denounce a society based on the cult of appearance through the use of a brand that represents the search for ephemeral happiness."

"This new way of interpreting sacred art is along the lines of the famous work presented (in 1999 in Venice by Maurizio Cattelan that showed a wax icon depicting



Pope John Paul II being crushed by a meteor," the curator of the biennial Giuseppe Bacci told Il Centro.

"It is a way to hit the visitors' unconscious," he added.

The biennial is held at Isola del Gran Sasso in the central region of Abruzzo.

When the Aruba Caribbean Hotel (known by locals to this day as The Carib), now the site of the Radisson Resort, opened 50 years ago, Cuba had closed to Americans.

For those who wanted to gamble and not have to trek to Vegas, the new and only hotel-casino on an unknown island in the Caribbean was the answer.

Visitors discovered miles of unpopulated gleaming white beaches, (and what would now be called a boutique hotel nearby), wonderfully dependable sunny weather, the clear, clean and bright turquoise sea surrounding and the Aruban people's natural and warm hospitality. A "Marietta Memory" spoken then about the weather: 'It's tropical like tropical fruit...always sweet.'

At that time, and for some years to follow, the attire in the casino was evening gowns for women and tuxedo jackets (black or summer white) or suits for men.

The dealers were called "casino boys" because most of them were young men just barely out of their teens. Grandfathers today, they are still referred to as "casino boys."

A note was attached to the door of their dressing and relaxing room to always speak English while dealing was the result of a woman complaining, loudly, of course, that the dealer was insulting her in "some stupid language." Laughter ensued because he had just told the floor man in Papiamentu not to forget to pick up his mother the next day to take her to the Doctor.

Those first years were a surprise to most visitors, and still today to those newly arrived, because of the number of languages spoken with such ease. American English was spoken at the Esso oil refinery in San Nicolas (since the late 1920's) and was readily adapted to hotel English. Added to the local language, Papiamentu, which is a language certified by the United Nations as such because it is spoken at all levels of society ('tis not a

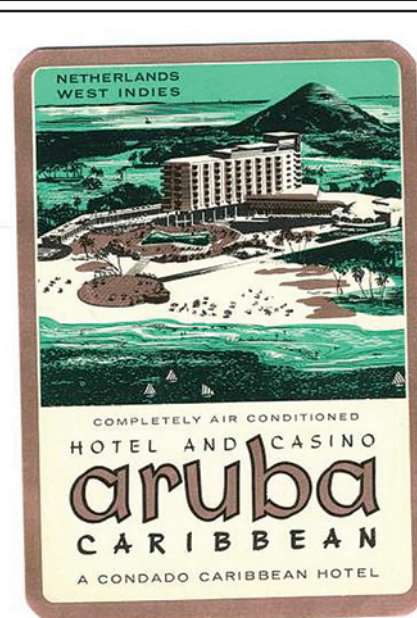
Back Then



dialect nor a patois), Dutch as the official language (Aruba is a separate entity within the Kingdom of the Netherlands), Spanish from the just-over-the-horizon South Americans and whatever else parents and grandparents brought with them. Today many more languages have been added as the population becomes even more diversified.

The bartenders at the hotel did have an unusual sense of humor regarding Papiamentu. They often would teach guests a word or two or a phrase but not give them the correct translation. When a guest would use the words to another Aruban, they would be rather surprised at the shocked look they received. Then the question was asked, "Who taught you that?" And the smile appeared, "Ah, yes, a bartender at the Carib." Nothing, of course, harmful; perhaps just a wee bit off-color.

And the longtime tradition continues: one always says "bon dia" (good day) or "bon noche" (good evening) when passing by another individual even if that individual is a stranger. Longtime visitors and Aruba has, by far, the highest rate of returning visitors than any other Caribbean destination, have adapted this tradition and often comment that it is part of "real Aruba" so beloved.



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Casa Tua Pizzeria, now open at the Renaissance Marketplace



The cute new Pizzeria first opened during the recent World Cup games and offered patrons ample seating, large TV screens and two pizza ovens baking irresistible thin-crust pies to satisfy all hungry soccer fans.

The games are now history, yet the new Casa Tua Pizzeria at the Renaissance Marketplace continues to turn out its signature pies. The secret is in the crust, which is barely there, just thick enough to carry a load of toppings, and just crunchy enough to satisfy not just taste buds but also ears!!

Casa Tua Pizzeria offers a contemporary pizza menu with popular toppings, as well as un-

common ones.

The menu also features a number of famous appetizers from Casa Tua's other well-established restaurants on Palm Beach and in Oranjestad.

The menu is salad-rich, including traditional Caesar. Casa Tua's pasta menu is one of town's most extensive. Patrons are invited to get creative and compose their own dish, mix and match the sauces.

Bartender Hans Oetelaar is in charge of the bar and the Rose wine he pours is the island's best, imported directly from France. As a side note, he can also make a killer Mojito, or the world's best Margarita.

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Galapagos removal from endangered list 'premature'

BRASILIA, Brazil (AFP) — A decision this week to remove Galapagos from UNESCO's list of endangered world heritage sites is hasty, the conservation consulting body used by the UN cultural agency said yesterday.

"The removal of this unique site of global importance to humanity is somewhat premature," the head of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Julia Marton-Lefevre, said.

"Threats from tourism, invasive species and overfishing are still factors and the situation in the Galapagos remains critical," added Tim Badman, who heads the IUCN's World Heritage Program which gives official advice to UNESCO's World Heritage Committee.

The comments came after

the committee, meeting in Brasilia, made the political decision Wednesday to strike Galapagos from its endangered sites list, on which it was entered in 2007.

The move, made at Brazil's request, was meant to reflect the progress the Ecuadorian government had made in protecting its archipelago, which was made famous by evolution theorist Charles Darwin.

"We recognize the major efforts of the Ecuadorian government to rectify the situation there," Badman said.

But he stressed that "IUCN's recommendation for the Galapagos was that it should not be removed from the Danger List as there is work still to be done."

Located 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) west of Ecuador's

coast, the Galapagos archipelago of 19 islands and more than 100 islets and rocky outcrops has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1978 for the rich plant and animal life found both on its land and in the surrounding sea.

In 2007, the organization declared the island chain's environment endangered due to the increase of tourism and the introduction of invasive species.

Some 10,000 people, mostly fishermen, live on the volcanic archipelago, which rose from the Pacific seabed 10 million years ago and became famous when Darwin visited to conduct research in 1835.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's List of



A Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) swims underwater in San Cristobal island, Galapagos Archipelago.

World Heritage in Danger includes 31 cultural or natural sites around the globe at imminent risk of degradation or destruction.

The 34th annual meeting of the World Heritage Committee this year is taking place in the Brazilian capital from July 25 to August 3.

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PG	THE KARATE KID	daily: 12:15 matinee: 3:15	late show:
PG-13	GROWN UPS	daily: 4:45 matinee: 12:00 2:30	7:00 9:15 late show: 11:30
PG	TOY STORY 3 3D	daily: 5:30 matinee: 12:30 3:00	late show:
R	PREDATORS	daily: 6:30 matinee: 1:30	9:00 11:50
PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER	daily: 6:45 matinee:	9:00 11:15

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PG	THE LAST AIRBENDER	daily: 7:00 matinee:	9:15 11:30
PG-13	GROWN UPS	daily: 4:45 matinee: 12:00 2:30	7:15 9:30 late show: 11:45
PG-13	KNIGHT & DAY	daily: 6:30 matinee:	9:00 11:30
PG	THE KARATE KID	daily: 3:30 matinee: 12:30	late show:
PG-13	TOY STORY 3 3D	daily: 4:00 matinee: 1:30	6:30 11:45
PG-13	THE TWILIGHT SAGA: ECLIPSE	daily: 9:00 matinee:	late show:

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Science/Tech

Base of Ocean Food Chain is in Decline, Study Finds

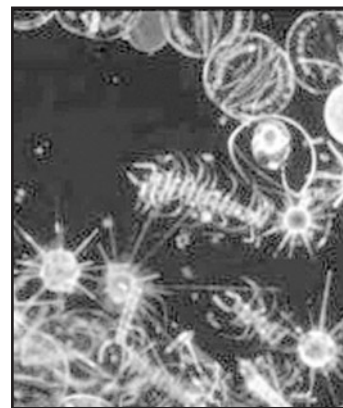
Across the globe, the microscopic plants at the base of the oceans' food chain have been disappearing over the past century at a rate of about 1 percent per year, researchers have found.

The decline of these tiny plants, called phytoplankton, has large significance because they produce half the organic matter on the planet and play an important role in Earth's carbon cycle.

"They support everything, including us," said Daniel Boyce, a doctoral student in marine biology at Canada's Dalhousie University and a member of the team that studied phytoplankton levels. "It seems the oceans are being stressed, and global climate change seems to be at the center of this shift."

The study documented a connection between rising sea surface temperatures and declines in phytoplankton, a phenomenon that was already well known, said study team member Boris Worm, a marine biologist at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"What is new here is we are showing as temperature



has increased over the last century, so have phytoplankton declined," he told OurAmazingPlanet. "The global link hasn't been defined before."

While previous research relied on satellite data, which present only a limited record, the Dalhousie researchers were able to look back as far as 1899 by using measurements of ocean transparency - an indicator of phytoplankton abundance - and direct measurements of chlorophyll pigment concentration. (Chlorophyll is a pigment in plants that absorbs light and gives them their green color.)

The researchers found that

the strongest single predictor for phytoplankton levels was ocean surface temperature. The connection is actually indirect, according to Worm, because rising surface temperatures prevent mixing between the oceans' oxygen-rich upper layers, where phytoplankton are present, and the colder, more nutrient-rich waters below.

The study, detailed in the July 29 issue of the journal Nature, found that rising surface temperatures were associated with declining phytoplankton in eight of 10 regions. Of the other two regions, the North Indian Ocean had a stable phytoplankton population and the South Indian Ocean showed growth.

The decline in phytoplankton seen around the poles, where it seems logical that increasing warmth would drive more growth, could be driven by increasing winds and ocean mixing, the researcher said.

Local factors such as polar melting and nutrient-rich runoff from agriculture also can influence the phytoplankton, Worm said.

Indian minister warns of fruit and veg hormone injections



NEW DELHI (AFP) - Indian farmers are injecting a hormone sometimes given to women during childbirth into vegetables and fruits to make the produce ripen sooner and gain weight, an Indian minister has warned.

In a letter to health ministry officials seen by AFP, junior health minister Dinesh Trivedi demanded a nationwide crackdown on the ille-

gal use of the prescription drug Oxytocin, which he said can cause serious health problems if taken over a long period.

"These hormones may cause irreparable damage to our health, if taken through these vegetables, over a period of time," he stated, listing heart disorders, sterility, nervous breakdowns and memory loss as possible side

effects.

He said the hormone, used to induce childbirth and lactation in women, is injected in pumpkin, watermelon, aubergine and cucumber plants to make them bear bigger fruit.

The injection can also be administered to fruit and vegetables just before they come to market to make them appear more plump and fresher.

Though the drug is banned for use in animals, it is often illegally used in cattle to boost milk production.

India's health ministry banned Oxytocin for public sale after a series of media reports about the drug being administered to underage girls in rural Rajasthan to make them look older before their marriages.

In neighbouring Bangladesh, sex workers are often given the steroid drug Oradexon, a form of Oxytocin, for the same reason.

Despite the ban on public sales of the drug in India, the hormone is still easily available from fertiliser and pesticide vendors, an official in the health ministry told AFP.



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HEALTH

Stemcells coaxed to rebuild bone, cartilage

PARIS (AFP) - Scientists have shown for the first time that it may be possible to replace a human hip or knee with a joint grown naturally inside the body using the patient's stem cells.

In experiments on rabbits, the researchers coaxed the animals' stem cells to rebuild the bone and cartilage of a missing leg joint, according to a study published Thursday.

"This is the first time an entire joint surface was regenerated with return of functions including weight bearing and locomotion," lead researcher Jeremy Mao, a professor at Columbia University Medical Center, said in a statement.

Naturally-grown joints would likely last longer than the current generation of artificial mechanisms, he said.

With ageing populations and many people under 65 requiring replacement surgery, there is a real danger patients will outlive metallic joints and require a second gruelling operation late in life.

In the experiments, Mao

and colleagues removed the forelimb thigh joint of 10 rabbits, and then implanted a kind of scaffolding made of biologically compatible materials.

A naturally-occurring substance that stimulates cell growth then cued the rabbits' stemcells to go to the site of the missing joint and regenerate both cartilage and bone in two distinct layers.

Within four weeks, the animals resumed normal movements -- a medical first, the researchers reported in the British medical journal *The Lancet*.

The fact that the regenerated limb joint was created from the stem cells in the host animal -- rather than being harvested and then cultivated outside the body -- is also unprecedented, they said.

This new procedure "may ultimately lead to clinical applications," said Mao. "In patients who need the knee, shoulder, hip or finger joints regenerated, the rabbit model provides a proof of principle."

But a number of scientific

and regulatory issues remain before the procedure can be tested on humans, he said.

For hip replacements, for example, recovery in people will be more difficult because humans carry all their weight on two legs.

Many patients are also likely to have existing conditions and drug regimens that could adversely affect the growth of new joints.

Some patients -- especially elderly people with diabetes -- will not have the same capacity for natural regeneration, cautioned Patrick Warnke of Australia's Bond University in a commentary, also in *The Lancet*.

The period of immobility while a joint regenerates also presents its own risks.

"The optimum way to grow a biological joint remains a controversy," Warnke said.

But, he added, the new research "offers a promising insight into what might be on the horizon."

As populations age in rich nations, the demand for total

joint replacements has skyrocketed.

In the United States, more than 200,000 patients received total hip replacements in 2006, and nearly half a million got new knee joints, according to the US Nationwide Inpatient Sample database of hospital inpatient stays.

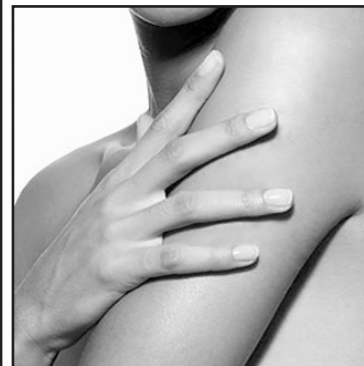
If these trends continue, an estimated 600,000 hip replacements and 1.4 million

knee replacements will be carried out in 2015.

The United States accounts for 50 percent total procedures worldwide, with Europe accounting for 30 percent, according to Data-monitor.

An ageing population and increased incidence of obesity are primary causes for the increase in joint replacements.

Tip: Caring for Your Skin



Creating a daily routine to care for your skin can help keep the body's largest organ healthy and clear. The Cleveland Clinic offers these skin-care suggestions:

- * Drink plenty of water each day.
- * Gently cleanse your face each morning and night.
- * Make sure you remove any makeup before bedtime.

- * Eat a healthy, balanced diet.
- * Use a toner on your skin after washing.
- * Moisturize your skin regularly. If you have oily skin, look for an oil-free moisturizer.



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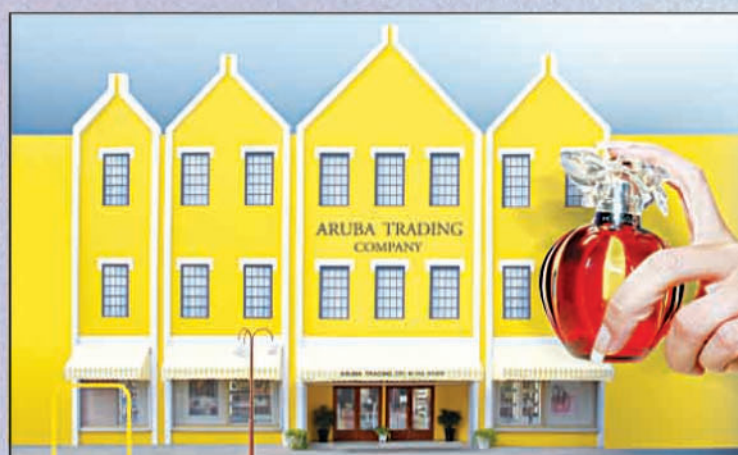
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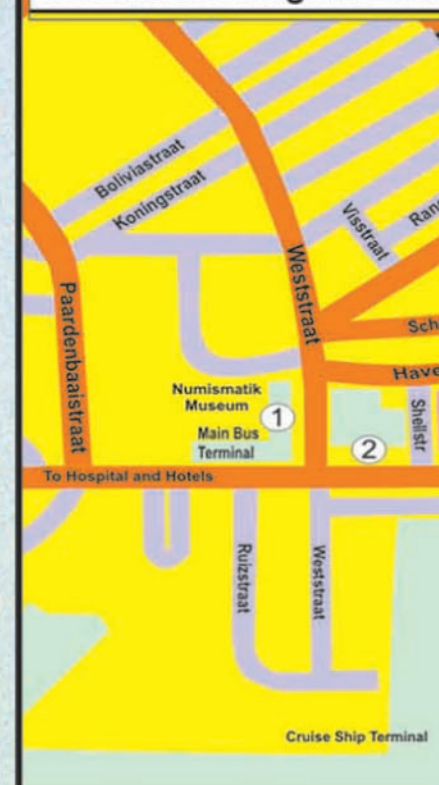
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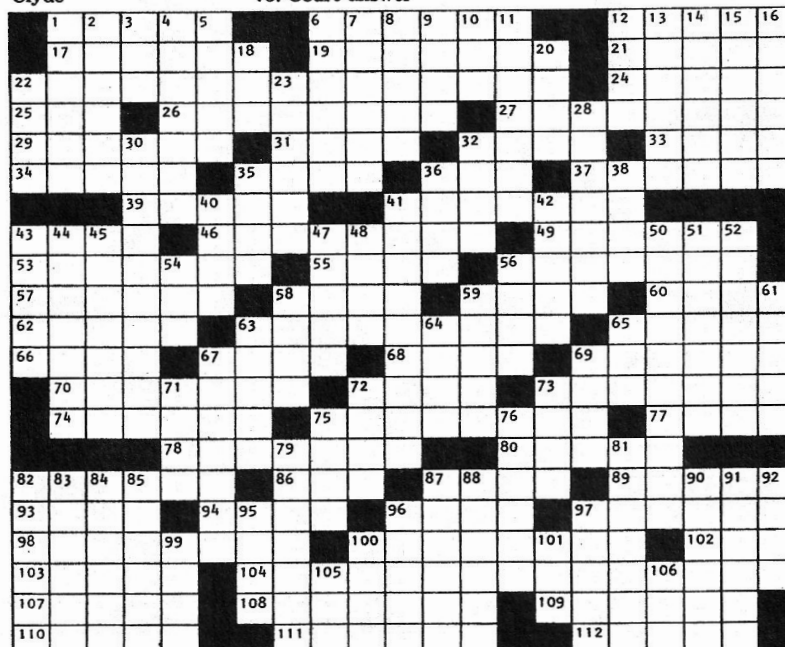
1. Bivouacs
6. Pamphlets
12. Crane's relative
17. Deacons' stoles
19. Get back on
21. Love: Ital.
22. Children's game
24. Clefts
25. Era
26. Impetus
27. Town in Texas
29. Porter musical
31. River to the North Sea
32. Weapon: Fr.
33. "Bus Stop" author
34. One on the house
35. Roman road
36. For shame!
37. Degraded
39. Lead-tin alloy
41. Indian mercenary
43. Kitchen virtuoso
46. Tire pressure tool
49. Liberate
53. Lambent
55. Actor Tambllyn
56. Past-due debt
57. Diverted
58. best friend
59. Friars
60. So long
62. Meistersinger Hans
63. European bird
65. Festivals
66. Asterisk
67. Gratis
68. Enemies
69. Resigns from office
70. Ideal
72. Nee
73. Sea cow
74. Feline sound
75. Pledger
77. Remainder
78. Small palace
80. Tibetan bear
82. Writer Bruce
86. Repeatedly, poetically
87. School gps.
89. Engraved: abbr.
93. Israeli port
94. House: Sp.
96. Bulgar
97. College in East Orange
98. Most diluted
100. Most theatrical
102. Actress Wray
103. German state
104. Popular piano piece
107. Above
108. Nosy person
109. Deep red
110. Equals
111. French perfume city
112. Shabby

DOWN

1. Puma
2. Parisian Robin Hood
3. ____ Afuera
4. Ranking bishop
5. Greek who tricked the Trojans
6. Thirty: Fr.
7. Clergyman
8. Love: Fr.
9. Crocus bulb
10. Wine cask
11. Scoffed
12. Male deer
13. ____ Romagna
14. NT book
15. Juice fruit
16. Required
18. Air: abbr.
20. British trolley
22. Treaty
23. Miss Prynnne
28. Burners
30. Porgy's home
32. Elder: Fr.
35. "There was not a penny ____"
36. Fruit
38. North wind
40. Heel strip
41. Hedge on an issue
42. Island in the Firth of Clyde
43. Crude
44. Carpal bone
45. Teach
47. Fireplace part
48. "Charley's ____"
50. Twin-hulled boats
51. Horneblende
52. Landed properties
54. DDE's opponent
56. Mars
58. Appearance
59. Diva Mirella ____
61. Possession
63. Danish rifles, for short
64. Fish bait
65. Army commander: abbr.
67. Bankroll
69. Mend
71. ____ de Teide
72. "____ Rabbit"
73. Extinct New Zealand birds
75. Court answer
76. Horse's joint disease
79. Putting to proof
81. Order of houseflies
82. Faro situation
83. One-seeded fruit
84. "Valse ____"
85. Stretching muscle
87. Surfaces
88. Hindu Nobelist
90. Most secure
91. Like potter's earth
92. Beams
95. Requests
96. Dancers' movements
97. Theater attendant
99. Cotton fiber knots
100. Greek meeting place
101. Common abbreviation
105. Rocky peak
106. Toolbox

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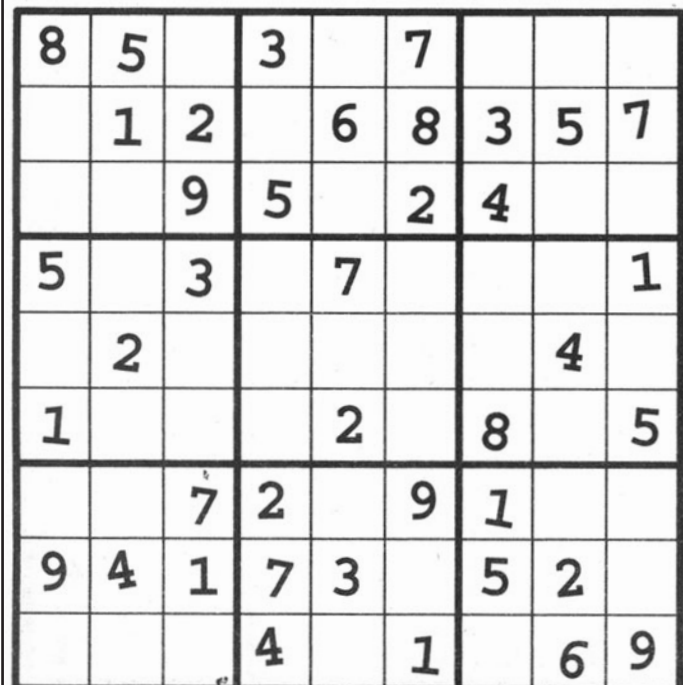
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S	L	8	E	Z	9	T	6	I
E	T	9	S	6	I	8	Z	L
I	6	Z	T	L	8	E	9	S
9	8	T	Z	I	S	6	L	E
L	S	E	8	9	6	Z	I	T
Z	I	6	L	T	E	9	S	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
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AKIN	EVANS	JOYAS	NIYO
WIIST	WEKE	SESS	STEW

The easy way To grow your business— get your customers to sell your products and services for YOU!

by Ken Varga



Hi, I am Ken Varga. I want to share with you some of the ideas, strategies, and principles that allowed me to build 35 businesses during my career.

By earnestly applying the ideas, you will learn how you too can build your business to success, while living an unhurried life, filled with family, friends, fun and a relaxed attitude.

Hi, and welcome back to another exciting Tip.

There are basically three ways to grow a business or practice.

The first is to increase your number of customers.

The second is to increase your average transaction value. That is the amount they purchase.

The third is to increase their frequency of purchase. Get them to purchase your products or services more often.

Over the next few Tips I'm going to show you how to accomplish all three of the ways to grow a business or practice.

Here's the first one.

Referral systems: Getting your customer or client to recommend and encourage other people they associate with to

seek out your product or services.

Do you ever remember how much you enjoyed an experience you once had when you purchased something?

You probably, like most of us, shared this experience others.

It could be a restaurant experience, a dentist, chiropractor, or retailer.

You had a great experience and shared it with others just like we all do after a pleasant experience.

But here's the best part...

Do you remember when they called you up and told you how happy and appreciative they were that you introduced them to that business?

Well you owe it to your own customers to give them the same opportunity with respect to your products. Why? Because it accomplishes three very powerful things for you, for them, and for the people they will refer to you.

The first thing it accomplishes is to help them better appreciate the advantage and benefit they receive every time they do business with your business.

This is important because it connects them to your business and, most importantly, to you.

The second thing it does is give them the opportunity to give back to you, in what I call a "reciprocating" way...the appreciation they feel for the benefit, value, and pleasure they get from your products or services.

And the third thing it does is to give them the opportunity to benefit or improve the life of

someone else. It's not uncommon that when you do this, you'll get multiples of referrals from this customer.

It gives them this incredible opportunity to do an wonderfully noble service for people in their lives that they feel good about, because they know when they refer those people to your business, they are increasing those peoples' well being, or improving the quality of their lives.

The key ingredient in making a referral system work is that your customer must understand and appreciate the value and benefit they receive from the product or service they purchased from you.

You must ask yourself the following questions in order for an effective referral system to work.

Do you genuinely care about your customers best interest, needs, and desires at the level you should or could?

Are you giving the best possible value or benefit that you possibly can give to that customer?

Are you genuinely always thinking of their interests above your own, because... this next statement is critical... it's all about them, not about you?

Are you extending yourself and every member of your staff and service to those customers?

You will hear me always getting into that issue and area over and over again through these tips.

The critical distinction is that it's all about them, not about you.

That's about it for this Tip. In the next Tip I'm going to continue talking about referrals as one of the ways to increasing the numbers of customers who will beat a path to your door.

Till then, keep healthy and wealthy.

To your success,

Ken Varga

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Europe gets new boost as economic confidence surges

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) — A surge in confidence in Europe's economy fuelled hope yesterday that the region is finally overcoming its financial troubles just days after European banks largely survived a crash test.

The Economic Sentiment Indicator produced by the European Commission soared in July to its highest level in more than two years, driven by eurozone powerhouse Germany, improved order books and optimism among consumers.

"July's sharper-than-expected increase in economic sentiment will further allay

fears of a near-term double dip recession in the Eurozone and may give fresh support to the euro," Dutch banking group ING said in a note.

The European Commission said sentiment in industry was the "main contributor to the overall improvement," with an increase of two points as respondents in the sector reported "substantial improvements in their order books."

Consumer confidence "regained momentum" with a 3.0-point jump in the euro area, the European Union's executive arm said.

"More optimism about the

general economic situation and very significant easing unemployment fears in Germany contributed to the overall improvement," the commission said. The data helped to drive the euro yesterday to its highest level against the dollar since May.

But the results were uneven across the 16-nation eurozone, pointing to persistent weakness in southern countries beset by a fiscal crisis that has rattled the single currency, analysts said.

"July's improvement in the EC consumer and business surveys adds to the evidence that the eurozone is perform-

ing surprisingly well but with stark divergences between countries," said Jennifer McKeown, senior European economist at market research group Capital Economics.

Business and consumer confidence jumped by 2.3 points to 101.3 points in the single currency area in July, the highest level recorded since March 2008, before the global slump began to really bite.

The rise was led by a 4.0-point gain in Germany followed by increases of 2.2 points in France, 1.9 points in Poland and 1.7 points in Italy, the commission said.

Steak on a Stone - Le Petit Café's specialty



Welcome to Le Petit Café

In a time when dining choices and critiques are based on value for your dollar, an old favorite, Le Petit Café, still offers one of the best values not only in price, but quality, quantity and ambiance.

Le Petit Café in Palm Beach offers charming surroundings reminiscent of a European outdoor café. Surrounded by Old World gaslights and an abundance of flora, it provides a delightful and romantic setting.

The Early Bird special offers a choice of a full sized chicken breast, a hefty portion of filet mignon or fresh grouper fillet accompanied by a well-stuffed baked potato, rice or french fries. There is a

in particular is excellent; extremely moist and tasty. A thick cut of filet mignon usually requires cutting into smaller sections to cook fully, especially if your preference is medium-well to well done.

Le Petit Café is particularly well known for its "Land and Sea" specialty, filet mignon and lobster tail; a gourmet treat when served in their signature fashion. The restaurant also offers a diverse menu of pastas and tempting gourmet appetizers such as seafood crepes, crispy calamari, and escargot. For family members in the mood for something different there are several dishes to choose from, such as chicken parmesan, so a large family with different ideas of what they want for dinner can easily be accommodated.

We all know that breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and Le Petit Café has also long been famous for the best value for breakfast on Aruba. They still offer an American breakfast for \$6.95 and a full breakfast buffet for \$10.95, another unbeatable



Fish on a Stone

choice of soup or salad as a starter, and ice cream for dessert, all for a modest \$21.50; an unbeatable price for a great meal on Aruba!

Cooking your main course on the stone is a supremely healthy method of preparation, seasoned to perfection and using no fats or oils. Fish

value!

Le Petit Café is also located in the Paradise Beach Villas, so whether you are staying in Oranjestad, Palm Beach or Eagle Beach, a La Petit Café restaurant can be found only a short stroll away from you resort, a perfect way to begin or end your day!

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

Managers of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, report that sales are picking up nicely as the global economy begins to recover and those with a bit of disposal income are looking to invest in a sure thing. Gold Coast Directing Manager Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners are barely using the villas or town homes they purchase, but taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are im-



own home on Aruba will eventually be a community of 200 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional pools decks, one of which has been open for a year, the other will be ready for the holidays 2010. They expect the clubhouse to be ready for the community with a workout room and spectacular facilities by the end of 2011. It

of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to provide custom options for clients, so buyers can individualize their homes. An elegant and chic standard package is available, or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast managers have inaugurated a number of in-house services and are now negotiating with Interval International to provide a huge international pool for investors to tap for renters either short or long term. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination will also be available. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, babysitting and catering services are also available for community members as well as airport pick-up and drop-off and pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can all be arranged through their home management department.



pressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community, and here the prices of properties have only increased over time. It is minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy run Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years.

"Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project; the scope and amenities. We talked to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took it from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who dreamed of their

will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking in 2007 are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, many earning their mortgage payments by renting regularly. The design of the structures is open, airy and impressive, fully de-



playing the island environment, with the finest quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

French first lady makes acting debut in Woody Allen film

PARIS (AFP) — Carla Bruni-Sarkozy, the wife of French President Nicolas Sarkozy, on Tuesday made her acting debut with Hollywood star Owen Wilson in a Woody Allen film being shot in Paris.

The veteran US director greeted the former model on the set of "Midnight in Paris" before shooting, which lasted several hours, at a small grocer's shop in the central fifth arrondissement (district).

The road was cordoned off and bodyguards maintained a discreet presence as a crowd gathered to watch.

Allen began filming his latest film earlier this month in the city.

The film, a romantic comedy, in which a couple see their life disrupted by a trip to Paris, also features French actress Marion Cotillard and Americans Rachel McAdams and Kathy Bates.

Daniel Craig stars in Hollywood's first Millennium Trilogy

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — British actor Daniel Craig will star in "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," Hollywood's first adaptation of one of late Swedish author Stieg Larsson's record-setting Millennium Trilogy, a Sony Pictures official said.

The newest James Bond impersonator will play journalist-sleuth Mikael Blom-

kivist in the upcoming production, a version of which has already been filmed in Sweden, a Sony studio spokesman said.

Craig, 42, will start working on the film in a few months, once he and co-star Harrison Ford finish shooting "Cowboys and Aliens," said the spokesman.

Spanish crooner still delighting hearts



Photo depicts Spanish singer Julio Iglesias performs on stage during his tour of Spain on July 28, 2010, in Malaga, southern Spain. The popular Spanish singer Julio Iglesias will have two concerts in Bulgaria during his "Starry Night" tour. On October 11, Iglesias will sing in the Bulgarian Black Sea city of Varna. On October 12, he will have his concert in Sofia. Julio Iglesias is one of the most popular Spanish singers. He has sold over 200 million records world-

wide and released 77 albums, which makes him one of the top 10 best selling music artists. During his 42-year-old career, Iglesias has performed duets with artists like Frank Sinatra, Stivie Wonder, Diana Ross, Dolly Parton, Paul Anka, Placido Domingo, Sting, Beach Boys and many others. He is also the only foreign artist, awarded by the Chinese Ministry of Culture because of his albums' record-high sales in the country.

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Milan Fashion Week back to full seven days: organisers

MILAN (AFP) - Milan Fashion Week will be true to its name, covering a full seven days in September instead of a frantic long weekend as it did in February after an agreement with top designers, organisers said Tuesday.

The event "will represent the desire of everyone in fashion to have a strong and competitive Fashion Week over seven days," the National Chamber of Italian Fashion (CMNI) said in a statement.

In February, American Vogue editor Anna Wintour threw organisers into a tailspin when it emerged she could only spare three days for Milan, rather than the full week.

Top designers scrambled to schedule their shows over a cramped four-day period, despite an appeal by Milan mayor Letizia Moratti who huffed: "No one, even if her name is Anna Wintour, can



make or unmake our fashion calendar."

Wintour, the inspiration for the book and subsequent film "The Devil Wears Prada" featuring the fearsome head of a fashion magazine, is regarded by many as the most influential person in the

industry.

After a "round table" with top designers, organisers hammered out a programme "with a strong beginning and end" that will kick off on September 22 with Gucci presenting their spring/summer 2011 collection and end with shows by Giorgio Armani and Cavalli, the statement said.

Also Tuesday, CMNI announced that Fashion Week will move to the centre of Milan from its old venue in a western suburb.

The shows will be held at the 16th-century Palazzo dei Giureconsulti near Milan landmarks such as La Scala opera house and the northern city's iconic Gothic cathedral as well as three other nearby venues, the statement said.

Another innovation will be free bike-sharing for journalists covering Fashion Week, it said.

Broadway sings blues over synthesizer invasion

NEW YORK (AFP) - While audiences at Broadway's "West Side Story" thrill to the on-stage drama, musicians in the orchestra pit are fighting a battle every bit as vicious as the Sharks-Jets rivalry.

This is gang warfare of a high-minded sort, pitting some of New York's best live musicians against a synthesizer they fear will usurp the job of playing Leonard Bernstein's pulsating score.

Sophisticated synthesizers and computer-manipulated recordings are increasingly taking over orchestras. Sounding almost like real players, while costing much less, they're especially popular with provincial or touring companies.

But until mid-July -- when "West Side Story's" producers announced that a synthesizer was replacing three live violinists and two cellists, or half the orchestra's string sec-

tion -- staff violinist Paul Woodiel thought that at least the classics would be immune to the trend.

"It was the last straw for me," Woodiel told AFP.

"I was a student and a friend of Leonard Bernstein and it's almost certain he wouldn't have allowed this.

This isn't dinner theater, it's not Las Vegas. It's Broadway and Leonard Bernstein was the greatest American musician."

Critics see synthesizers as little better than some barbarian force trampling the classical music landscape.



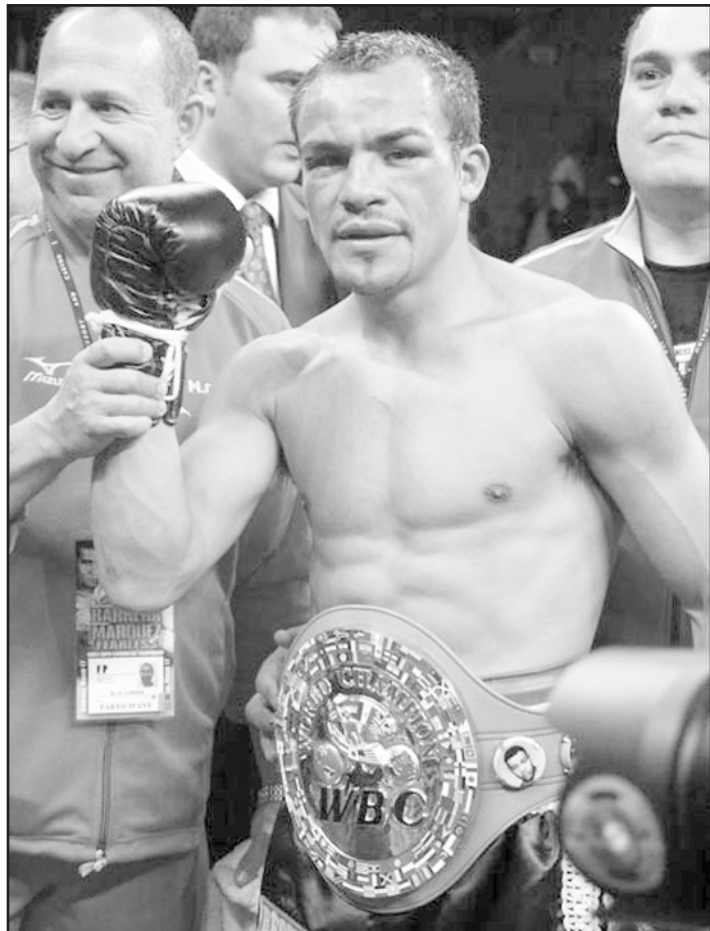
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Marquez defends crown in rematch with Diaz



Juan Marquez

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AFP) — Mexican veteran Juan Manuel Marquez defends his lightweight title on Saturday against American Juan Diaz in a rematch of their title slugfest from last year that brought Marquez two titles.

Marquez knocked out Diaz in the ninth round in February of last year to retain the World Boxing Association and World Boxing Organization lightweight crowns that will again be at stake on Saturday.

"This fight is going to be better than the first one because Juan Diaz is a great

fighter and a great warrior and I am too," Marquez said.

"I like to fight. Everyone who knows me knows I like landing so many punches. I've prepared very hard and I'm ready."

Marquez, 36, is a 3-1 betting favorite to defeat Diaz, 26, once again.

But Diaz, 35-3 with 17 knockouts, says the time has come for Marquez, 50-5 with one drawn and 37 knockouts, to be replaced.

"It is time for the new generation to step up and reign over the lightweight division," Diaz said. "It just

makes sense that I am going to win this fight and I am going to keep winning from now on."

Since losing to Marquez in his hometown, Diaz split two fights against countryman Paul Malignaggi, winning a unanimous decision last August but losing by unanimous decision four months later.

"We went back to the drawing board and tweaked a few things that Marquez capitalized on in the first fight," said Diaz's trainer, Ronnie Shields.

That has put Diaz in solid form, according to his manager, Willie Savhannah.

"I've never seen him as in shape as he is for this fight. The public is going to see a boxing machine," he said. "I'm telling you to go out and bet your house on Diaz."

The only fight for Marquez since beating Diaz some 17 months ago came last September when he stepped up to welterweight and lost to undefeated US star Floyd Mayweather by unanimous decision.

The only other losses since 1999 for Marquez came at the hands of two other top stars, unbeaten Indonesian Chris John in 2006 and Filipino legend Manny Pacquiao in 2008.

Diaz, whose parents became US citizens after moving from Mexico, resists US, Mexican or Hispanic fighter labels.

"I don't want to be any of that. I am 100 percent warrior," he said. "I fight for all of my fans whether it is Mexicans, Mexican-Americans, Blacks, Whites or Asians. I want to give everyone a great fight."

Ex-Saints backup Brunell signs with Jets

NEW YORK (AFP) — Mark Brunell, the backup quarterback for the Super Bowl champion New Orleans Saints last season, signed a two-year National Football League contract with the New York Jets on Wednesday.

Brunell, 39, served as a backup to Saints star Drew

Brees the past two years in New Orleans after spending four seasons in Washington, nine more before that with Jacksonville and his first two seasons behind Brett Favre at Green Bay.

The Jets wanted a veteran reserve behind second-year signal caller Mark Sanchez but were unable to sign

Brunell until after free agency restrictions among last season's eight playoff quarter-finalists expired last week.

Brunell, who worked out Wednesday for the Jets before signing a deal, has thrown for 31,928 yards and 182 touchdowns in 18 NFL seasons. He matched an NFL record with 22 consecutive completions in a game in 2006 with Washington.

Although Brunell has made only one start in three seasons, last season's final regular-season game for the Saints, he is being seen as mainly a mentor for Sanchez, who guided the Jets one win from the Super Bowl as a rookie.

Mitch Moreland from Triple-A Oklahoma City. He wasn't previously on the club's 40-man roster, so to make room, the Rangers transferred pitcher Mark Lowe from the 15-day to the 60-day disabled list.

Rangers put Kinsler on DL with groin strain

The Rangers placed star second baseman Ian Kinsler on the disabled list with a strained left groin on Thursday.

To take Kinsler's place on the roster, the club called up first baseman/outfielder

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Lakers Bynum has knee surgery

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Los Angeles Lakers center Andrew Bynum underwent successful surgery on his right knee Wednesday, the National Basketball Association club announced.

Bynum had arthroscopic surgery in New York to repair

a partially torn ligament.

He first learned of the tear in his meniscus during the Lakers' first-round playoff series against Oklahoma City.

Bynum postponed surgery during the Lakers' run to their second consecutive NBA title.



Dia Mamadou Cherif leaps in the air during the Men's long jump final competition during the five-day 17th African Athletics Championships in Nairobi, yesterday. Despite his efforts he finished in 6th place among the 12 athletes that made it to the final round.

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Tiger commits to World Golf event in Akron



ORLANDO, Florida (AFP) — World number one Tiger Woods has committed to defend his title at the World Golf Championships Bridgestone Invitational next week at Firestone Country Club, where he has won seven times.

Woods announced on his website that he will make the 8.5 million-dollar event his eighth start of a comeback season in the wake of a sex scandal. Woods is off to his worst career start of a campaign, having yet to win a 2010 event.

Woods has never finished lower than fourth at the WGC event in Akron, Ohio, but has not won since details of his adultery scandal surfaced last November.

In taking the 1.4 million-dollar Bridgestone top prize last year, Woods fired two rounds of 65 on the weekend to defeat Ireland's Pádraig Harrington and Australian Robert Allenby by four strokes.

That victory made Woods the first player to win the same stroke play event seven times on the same course, having previously won at Firestone from 1999-2001 and 2005-2007.

Sam Snead owns the record with eight titles at a single event in Greensboro, North Carolina, but those came upon different courses.

Woods will use the event as a tuneup for the year's final major tournament, the PGA Championship, which will be staged the following week at Whistling Straits in Kohler, Wisconsin.

Woods, a 14-time major winner, is chasing the all-time record of 18 majors won by Jack Nicklaus. But he is also pursuing Nicklaus and Snead in another win mark, the all-time PGA championship record.

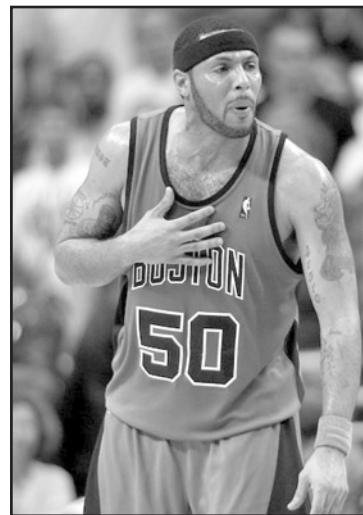
With 71 PGA Tour titles, Woods stands two shy of Nicklaus for second on the all-time title list that Snead leads with 82.

Woods is coming off a share of 23rd at the British Open earlier this month at St. Andrews. He shared fourth at the Masters, his comeback event after a five-month lay-off, and the US Open in this year's other major championships.

Woods last won a US PGA event at last year's BMW Championship, the third event of the US PGA playoffs. This year, he might struggle simply to qualify for a chance to defend that crown.

Despite having twice won the US PGA playoff crown, Woods ranks only 107th in this year's points race, which concludes in Greensboro the week after the PGA Championship. Only the top 125 in the points race reach the playoff field.

House makes James feel at home in Miami



Eddie House

MIAMI (AFP) — Nine-year NBA veteran guard Eddie House agreed to terms Thursday on a two-year deal worth 2.8 million dollars to join the Miami Heat, likely as a backup to a star-studded

lineup led by LeBron James.

The Heat landed the biggest prize in the NBA's free agency sweepstakes when they signed James earlier this month to play alongside star guard Dwyane Wade and incoming playmaker Chris Bosh.

House will be part of the supporting cast behind the superstars, but his history of sinking key shots in tension-packed situations, including a career 39-percent accuracy rate on 3-point shots, will be a plus for Miami.

House, with a career average of 7.6 points a game, played his first three NBA seasons for the Heat after being picked by Miami in the 2000 NBA Draft and has played for eight other clubs, including Boston and New York last season.

Owens better late than never for Bengals

GEORGETOWN, Kentucky (AFP) — Terrell Owens missed his overnight flight to Cincinnati Bengals training camp, delaying the 36-year-old star receiver's debut with his new National Football League club.

But Owens, who has agreed to terms on a two-year deal worth 2.1 million dollars with incentives that could nearly double his take, will be able to wear his familiar jersey number, 81, when he joins the club.

Owens and pal Chad Ochocinco together with free agent signee Antonio Bryant, who signed a four-year deal worth 28 million dollars in March when the Bengals first looked at Owens, give

Cincinnati quarterback Carson Palmer a formidable receiving corps.

Bryant had been given jersey number 81 but said Thursday he was giving it up so Owens could don his familiar number when he finally arrives, asking only in return Owens make a donation to a youth baseball program in Miami close to Bryant's heart.

"I'm a realist," Bryant said. "I said, 'Hey, man, I'm not going to make no big spectacle about it. You've got a bigger legacy and a number than I do. I've been on several teams like you, but I've changed my number several times. You've had the same number."

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France meet Spain in clash of junior titans

PARIS (AFP) - Hosts France confront Spain in the final of the Under-19 European Championship in Caen, northern France on Friday, as the tournament's most eye-catching sides bid to bow out in glory.

The two teams have illuminated and dominated the competition; France netting 12 goals in four matches and Spain producing performances reminiscent of the slick football that took the senior side to World Cup glory in South Africa.

Cellar-dwelling Orioles hire Showalter as manager

BALTIMORE (AFP) - Buck Showalter, who guided Major League Baseball clubs for 11 seasons before leaving for a television commentary booth, has been hired to revive the woeful Baltimore Orioles.

The Orioles announced Thursday they have hired Showalter, now working as an ESPN analyst, as manager of the struggling team, which at 31-70 has the worst record in Major League Baseball.

Showalter will take over the club on Tuesday when the Orioles play host to the Los

Angeles Angels.

Showalter, 54, was voted the American League's Manager of the Year during his stints with the New York Yankees and Texas and also guided the National League's Arizona Diamondbacks with an overall record of 882-833.

The Orioles fired manager Dave Trembley on June 4 and Juan Samuel has been serving as interim manager since then, going 16-31 as Baltimore sputters to what will almost certainly be a 13th consecutive losing season.



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